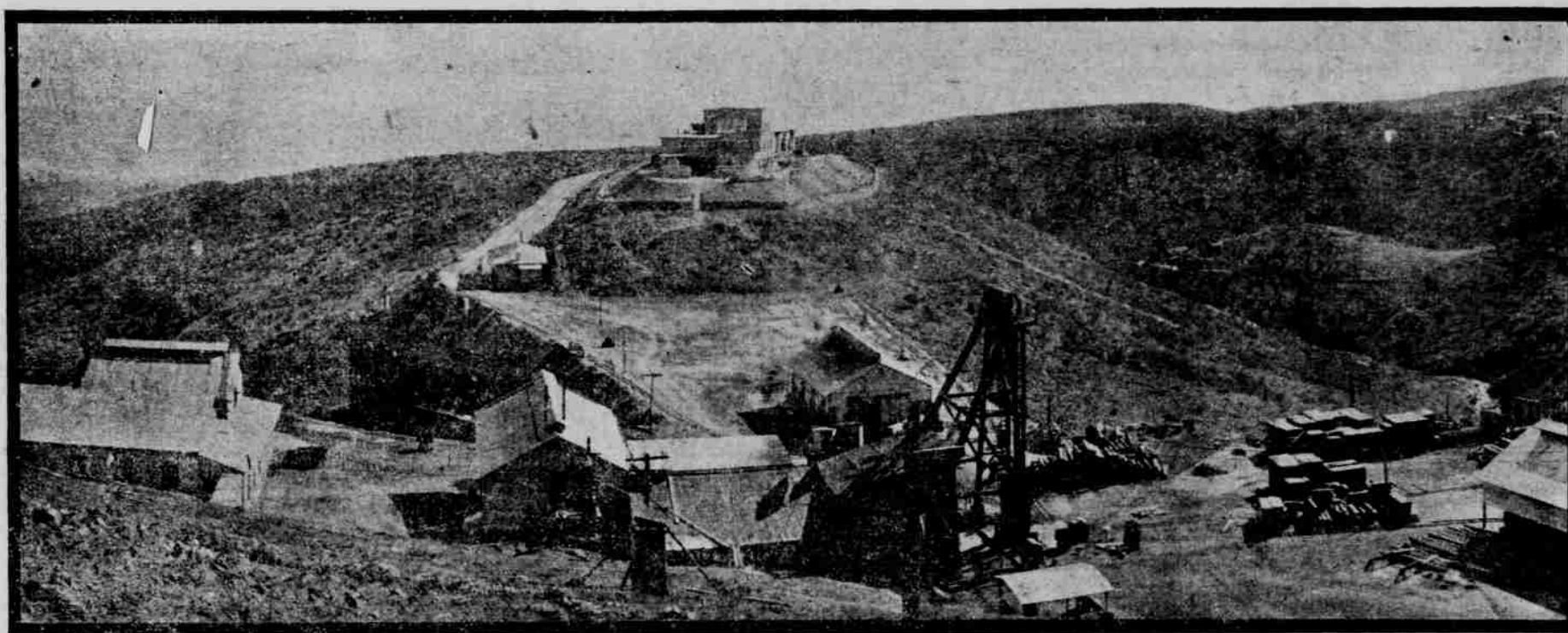


UNITED VERDE EXTENSION CAUSED JEROME BOOM



Property of United Verde Extension In Jerome District, Showing House of James S. Douglas, President of the Company.

The recent mining boom at Jerome, Yavapai county, was due largely to a strike on the United Verde Extension, a strike which led to the discovery of one of the greatest ore bodies in Arizona. The discovery came as a result of faith and courage. The property was turned down time and again by engineers and geologists. Four years ago it was not even considered a prospect, in the strict sense of the word. Today that erstwhile "wildcat" is producing over 4,000,000 pounds of copper a month, which figured at market price is worth \$1,200,000. This amount will be doubled when proposed equipment is installed.

The property consists of forty claims. But all the ore mined to date has been taken from only one of these, leaving thirty-nine untouched for future exploitation. The extent of the ore body is as yet undetermined, however, it being the assurance of the owners of the mine that this ore body is extensive.

In 1914 a rich body of chalcocite ore was first encountered, in a cross-cut from the 1200 level of the Edith shaft on one of the original five claims. The ore had to be packed by burros to the old United Verde smelter at Jerome. At one time there was as many as 120 burros on the trail doing this work. Six thousand feet of tramway now connects the mine with the railroad. This improvement was made within the past few months.

Discovered By Engineer

The United Verde Extension mine, which opened the district to the world, was discovered by J. J. Fisher, civil and mining engineer. He located a fraction of the Little Daisy. Associated with Fisher was L. E. Whicher of New York, broker and promoter. These men purchased four other claims adjoining the Little Daisy Group from George Hull. The United Verde Extension company was organized. It sunk the Old Daisy shaft to a depth of 800 feet. Although considerable drifting and cross-cutting was done no commercial ore was encountered.

The company operated off and on, at times being entirely out of funds. The mine was operating at the time of the death of Fisher in 1911. He had at times been assisted financially by A. J. Pickrell of Prescott, who received stock in return. He attempted to interest other substantial men in the prospect. In 1912 he succeeded in attracting the attention of James S. Douglas. The Douglas-Tener syndicate took over the United Verde Extension, purchasing a block of stock and taking an option on the remainder, a short time afterward exercising their option.

Mine Unwatered

The new owners unwatered the mine, reopened the old workings and that summer started to sink the Edith shaft. The shaft went to 1200 feet, with considerable drifting and cross-cutting. The rich ore body was finally encountered.

The company, which has more individual stockholders in Arizona than any other producing company, pays a dividend every three months amounting to 50 cents a share. Aside from dividends the company is holding in reserve sums for further development work, equipment and for the construction of a smelter. The company is making improvements on the surface all the time. An office building and hospital are among the improvements. The general office will be 18x40 feet. On the ground floor there will be three private offices fifteen feet square, a change room, assay office, timekeepers' office and large space to be used as a rest room for employees. On the second floor will be a large drafting room.

The Mount View claim, southeast of Jerome and east of the United Verde Extension mine, known as the "hog back" has been set aside as a townsite.

Site for Smelter

A 120-acre ranch, formerly owned by Clarence Hopkins, was purchased for the purpose of obtaining a water supply. The property is situated seven miles from Jerome and two and one-half miles from Clarkdale. It has three artesian wells. It is reported that the Discus ranch, another purchase of Mr. Douglas, will be the site for the United Verde Extension smelter.

A sketch in the Mines Handbook by Walter Harvey Weed recounts the following concerning the United Verde Extension:

"The company was incorporated in 1902 in Maine as a reconstruction of the United Verde Extension Gold, Silver and Copper Manufacturing company. It was capitalized for \$3,000,000, shares at \$10 a share par; and again reorganized in 1912 and the capitalization reduced to \$750,000, shares 50 cents par. In this reorganization approximately 360,000 shares were set aside, on a share for share basis, for the old shares outstanding; about 40,000 shares were issued in liquidation of debts; 150,000 shares were issued to James S. Douglas for services; 50,000 shares were sold to Mr. Douglas for \$25,000 cash; 400,000 shares were optioned to Mr. Douglas and associates with the right to purchase all or part

of this block at par value at any time prior to June 15, 1915; and 500,000 shares were reserved for treasury purposes.

Developments in 1916

"August, 1916, shows the ore body on the 1400-foot level to be 200 feet wide and 300 feet long, with an average content of 10 per cent copper. A raise being driven to connect with the 1200-foot level is up to 103 feet and shows an average of 14 per cent copper. A twenty-foot winze sunk from the 1400-foot level, to be deepened to 1600 feet, shows an average of 11 per cent copper, proving the downward extension to much greater depth. The development to date makes the mine as great a one as its more famous namesake.

"The original development was by an 800-foot vertical shaft, the Edith on the Little Daisy claim, about 1700 feet from the main shaft of the United Verde mine, with collar 450 feet lower. This shaft after passing through fifty feet of iron stains encountered copper carbonates, continuing to a depth of about 150 feet, succeeded by conglomerate, and from a depth of 425 feet to 578 feet passed through schist carrying copper sulphides and manganese. These old workings total about 5000 feet, but develop only a little ore of about two per cent copper, one ounce silver and \$3 in gold on the 800-foot level. A 130-foot winze below this level was bottomed in decomposed schist, showing considerable copper.

"The development from October 10, 1914, to January 1, 1916, includes 464 feet of drifts and crosscuts on the 800-foot level; 2499 feet on the 1100-foot level; 1800 feet on the 1400-foot level, in company ground. Beside this 2197 feet Jerome Verde work in that company's tract.

"The ore thus far developed lies on the northerly down thrown side of a big fault, with a drop of 650 feet or thereabouts, as shown by the limestone strata on each side of it. Ore reserves estimated about July 1, 1916, gave 1,500,000 tons of ten per cent ore blocked out.

"The officers of the company are James S. Douglas, president and general manager; George E. Tener, vice president; Louis E. Whicher, vice president; Charles P. Sands, secretary-treasurer and the following additional directors, W. J. Maloney, Paul Armitage, Harold Pierce, Archibald Douglas and Andrew J. Pickrell.